AIR POUCH ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, BONN Desp. No. 314

TO : The Department of State, Washington

REF : CA-2849, October 10, 1955

SUBJECT: Americans Imprisoned in the USSR; Case of Klaus Friedric GLAUBITZ, also known as Charles Frederick HOPKINS and Harry HOPKINS.

Upon receipt of the referenced airgram, attempts were made to contact Mrs. Ilse Koenke through the Embassy's Political Advisor to the Headquarters, U.S. Army, Europe, with no results. Next the Consulate General at Hamburg was requested to contact the British Intelligence Office at Goettingen. In a memorandum dated February 6, 1956, the Consulate General wrote that its Political Officer at Hannover had discussed the case with the local British Intelligence Office, the files of which contained an interrogation report of conversation with Mrs. Koenke in which it was stated that she planned to reside at Cologne. Moreover, it was stated that she had met a Mr. Hopkins in February 1953, rather than in February 1955, as was stated in the referenced airgram.

Information from the British Intelligence Office regarding another returnee who had known Mr. Hopkins in the Soviet Union is quoted below from the Hamburg memorandum:

> Although it was not possible to interview Ilse Koenke, the British RIO produced another report from the Goettingen Intelligence Office dated 20 May, 1955, which confirmed the presence of Harry Hopkins in the Soviet Union, as of December 1954. The source was an ethnic German returnee, Boris Ferenzewitsch, born 8.1.17, and understood to have been returning to his residence at Schimmelsburg 35, Wuppertal-Barmen.
>
> Ferenzewitsch said he had known a man who called himself Harry Hopkins at a prison camp, Dubrov 5110/33, in the Potma area, and that when the source himself left the camp in December, 1954, "Hopkins" was still there. "Hopkins'" story, as told to Ferenzewitsch, was similar to that reported by Ilse Koenke—i.e., U.S. Army medical officer, arrested for espionage, speaking German with a foreign accent, etc. The description contained in the report tallied even more closely

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEBlake,Jr./jdh

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 901173

611.61251/8-2858 CONFIDENTIAL FILE
MAY 8 1958
FILED

with the picture of Glaubitz: age 40, height about 1 m 65 cm., light-blond hair, light-blue eyes, sturdy build, high forehead, protruding chin, and mustache.

The British RIO expressed his personal opinion that the similarity of the two reports and the accurate description of Hopkins/Glaubitz would tend to confirm the belief that Hopkins and Glaubitz are one and the same.

Because the files of the British Intelligence Office at Hannover indicated that Miss Koenke planned to reside at Cologne, the Consulate General at Duesseldorf was requested to attempt an interview with her. By a memorandum dated March 1, 1956, the Consulate General stated that Miss Koenke had called at the office on that date and identified the photographs shown her of Klaus Friedric Glaubitz without hesitation as the man she had met in the Soviet Union in February 1953 who had introduced himself as Harry Hopkins of New York. According to the memorandum, Miss Koenke did not know why Mr. Glaubitz assumed an alias and attempted to pass as an American citizen. She also stated that he introduced himself as Harry Hopkins, not as Johnny Hopkins or as Charles Frederick Hopkins.

On November 8, 1955, the Embassy requested the German Foreign Office to interview Mr. Glaubitz and ask whether he was ever at camp no. 11 at Vindrey near Potma, at a camp near Norilsk, or at a camp in or near Brest and, if he had ever been at any of these camps, the date of his confinement therein. In a note dated June 25, 1956, the Foreign Office quoted a statement made by Mr. Glaubitz, which is given below:

I, Klaus Friedrich Glaubitz, born in Koenigsberg/East Prussia, on December 31, 1927, was arrested on June 29, 1947, while interpreting for Allied units and was abducted, while unconscious, to Wismar in Mecklenburg (Soviet-occupied Zone). During my pre-trial detention in Schwerin until October 1948, I fought for my name, but was compelled to admit that my name was Hopkins, Harry Charles. Under this name I arrived in Brest in 1950, was held there in the transit camp for two months and proceeded to the peninsula of Taimir (Norilsk), where I was compelled to work until the end of 1951. From December 1951 until August 24, 1955, I was an inmate of Camps 7 and 11 in Windrej and Jawas near Potma. I am 28 today, height 174 cm, oval-faced, strikingly light-blue eyes, medium-blond. Perfect knowledge of Russian, English, French, Spanish and Polish.

For the Charge d'Affaires a.i.:

Donald W. Smith
Supervising Consul General

Copies sent:
AmEmbassy, Moscow
USBER
AmConGen, Duesseldorf
AmConGen, Hamburg